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ST. NEOTS  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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THE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health  
and  
Surveyor & Chief Sanitary  
Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1953



# ANNUAL REPORT

## FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953

by

J. CALDWELL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S.,  
D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my first Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the District.

Your obedient servant,

J. CALDWELL.

### STAFF.

#### Medical Officer of Health.

M. M. MARKHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

(Resigned 30th April, 1954).

J. CALDWELL, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P. & S., D.P.H.

(Commenced 14th June, 1954).

#### Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor and Water Engineer.

M. FAWCETT, M.S.I.A., M.R. San.I.

(Tel. St. Neots 402/3 and Buckden 282).

#### Additional Sanitary Inspector and Assistant Surveyor.

G. O. MARCH, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I. (Resigned 29-3-53).

D. F. SWEETING, M.S.I.A. (Appointed 11-5-53).

(Tel. Kimbolton 303).

#### Water Superintendent.

S. G. ERRIDGE (Tel. Kimbolton 348).

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: 52,559 acres (approximately 81 square miles).

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1953: 2,382.

Rateable Value of the District: £30,926.

Value of a Penny Rate: £120.

Estimated Population (Mid 1952): 7,635.

Estimated Population (Mid 1953): 7,713.

**COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**Housing & Public Health Committee:**

Chairman: Councillor Mrs. M. K. Abrahams.

**Water & Sewage Committee:**

Chairman: Councillor C. F. Smith.

**Finance & Rating Committee:**

Chairman: Councillor H. Higgins.

**Chairman of the Council:**

1952/53: Councillor R. F. Aubrey.

1953/54: Councillor F. W. Sharpe.

**Clerk to the Council:**

D. J. Dear. ....

**VITAL STATISTICS**

**LIVE BIRTHS**

	M.	F.	Total	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population (Ditto for England and Wales) ...	17.1
Legitimate	... 74	51	125		
Illegitimate	... 3	4	7		
Total	... 77	55	132		15.5

**STILL BIRTHS**

	M.	F.	Total	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live & Still Births) ...	14.9
Legitimate	... 1	1	2	(Ditto for England and Wales) ...	
Illegitimate	... -	-	-		
Total	... 1	1	2		22.4

**DEATHS (ALL AGES)**

	M.	F.	Total	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population (Ditto for England and Wales) ...	10.2
Legitimate	... 41	38	79	(Ditto for England and Wales) ...	
Illegitimate					11.4

**DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR**

	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	... 2	-	2
Illegitimate	... -	-	-
Total	... 2	-	2

**DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR**

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	15.2
(Ditto for England and Wales)	...	26.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	16.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	=

**CAUSES OF DEATH.**

(Registrar General's List).

List No.	Cause	Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	— 1
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	—
3	Syphilitic	...	—
4	Diphtheria	...	—
5	Whooping cough	...	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	—

7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	—	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	2	—
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	2	—
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	—	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	—	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	6	4
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	1	—
16	Diabetes	...	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	3	6
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	1	2
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	—	—
20	Other heart disease	...	5	7
21	Other circulatory diseases	...	—	2
22	Influenza	...	—	—
23	Pneumonia	...	3	—
24	Bronchitis	...	3	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	—	1
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	—	1
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	—	1
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	3	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	1	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	5	8
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	—
34	All other accidents	...	3	—
35	Suicide	...	2	1
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	—	—
	Total all causes	...	41	38

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

##### (a) Laboratory Facilities.

The following Laboratory Facilities have been available to this authority and to General Practitioners in the area:

Public Health Laboratory Service, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.  
Tel. Cambridge 55526.

Public Analyst (S. Greenburgh, PH.D., B.Sc., F.I.C.), Tennison Road, Cambridge. Tel. Cambridge 2097.

##### (b) Ambulance Services.

(i) Ambulances administered by the County Ambulance Service, operating in conjunction with the County Fire Service, have been available on doctor's orders (Tel. Huntingdon 348).

(ii) An ambulance stationed at Huntingdon Isolation Hospital has been available for cases of infectious disease (Tel. Huntingdon 59).

**(c) Home Nursing.**

Nurse-midwives employed and supervised by the Huntingdon County Council carried out Home Nursing and attended Maternity Cases in the District:—

- (i) A nurse residing in Great Staughton (Tel. Kimbolton 271), attended cases in Kimbolton, Great Staughton, Grafham, Perry, Tilbrook, Dillington and Hail Weston.
- (ii) A nurse residing in Eltisley (Tel. Croxton 210), attended cases in Gt. Paxton, The Offords, Toseland, Yelling, Great Gransden, Waresley and Abbotsley.
- (iii) A nurse residing in Brampton (Tel. Huntingdon 336), attended in Buckden, Diddington and Southoe.
- (iv) A nurse residing in Great Staughton (Tel. Kimbolton 324), attended in Catworth and Covington.
- (v) Little Paxton was attended by a nurse living in St. Neots (Tel. St. Neots 215).

**(d) Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

(1) The following Health Services, provided by the Huntingdon County Council, were available:—

Clinic Minor Ailments	Patients seen. Schoolchildren	When held 1st Thursday in month 10—11.30 a.m.	Where held. Liberal Club, St. Neots.
Infant Welfare	Children (0—5 years)	1st Friday in month, 10.30—11.30 a.m.	Village Hall, Great Staughton.
		Every Monday, 9.30—10.30 a.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
Dental	Pre-School and School- children.	Every Wednesday and Thursday, 2—4 p.m.	Liberal Club, St. Neots.
	Pre-Natal & Nursing Mothers.	3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Mandeville Hall, Kimbolton.
		3rd Tuesday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Methodist Schoolroom, Buckden.
		1st Friday in month 2—4 p.m.	Village Hall, Great Staughton.
		3rd Monday in month, 2—4 p.m.	Reading Room, Gt. Gransden.
		1st Thursday in month, 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2.0—2.30 p.m.	Red Cross Room, High Street, St. Neots.
		Every Wednesday (ex- cept 2nd in month) and every Saturday. 10 a.m.—12 noon (by appointment).	Princes Street, Huntingdon.

(II) The following Health Services are the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, but administered on an agency basis by the Huntingdon County Council:—

Clinic	Patients seen.	When held	Where held.
Ophthalmic	Pre-School and School-children.	1st and 3rd Fridays in month (by appointment, except in emergency), 10 a.m.—12 noon, 2—4 p.m.	Old Grammar School, Huntingdon.
Orthopaedic	Ditto.	2nd and 4th Tuesdays in month (by appointment), 10 a.m.—12 noon.	Ditto.

(III) The following Health Services were provided by the Regional Hospital Board:—

Clinic	Patients seen.	When held	Where held.
Chest	All ages	Every Thursday, 10 a.m.—12 noon.	County Hospital, Huntingdon.
Venereal Diseases	All cases	Mondays, 3—7 p.m. Wednesdays, 4—6.30 p.m.	Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.
		Males: Mondays, 5.30—7 p.m. Wednesdays, 5.30—7 p.m.	Out Patient Dept.
		Females: Tuesdays, 10.30—12 noon Thursdays, 5.30—7 p.m.	Memorial Hosp., Peterborough.

Medical, Surgical, Orthopaedic, Paediatric, Skin, Obstetric, Gynaecological and Dental Out-patient Clinics are held at Huntingdon County Hospital and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge, to which General Practitioners can refer their patients for specialist investigation.

#### (e) Hospital Services.

**Fever:**—Huntingdon Isolation Hospital provided facilities for the investigation and treatment of infectious diseases.

General Hospital Services were provided by the County Hospital, Huntingdon, and Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases were admitted to Paxton Park Maternity Home, St. Neots.

#### CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

	Total Cases Notified
Scarlet Fever	... 6
Whooping Cough	... 10
Diphtheria	... -
Measles	... 123
Aeute Pneumonia	... 4
Puerperal Pyrexia	... 4
Typhoid Fever	... -
Erysipelas	... 2
Aeute Poliomyelitis	... 1
Dysentery	... 2

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year the number of children immunised was as follows:

Age at Date of Immunisation	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
Primary Immunisation	33	35	3	—	—	5	1	77
Secondary or Reinforcing Injection	—	—	—	—	—	15	9	24

The following table gives in detail the Diphteria Immunisation state within the District of children up to the age of 15 years:

Age at 31-12-53 i.e. born in year	Under 1 1953	1-4 1952-1949	5-9 1948-1944	10-14 1943-1939	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster)					
A : 1949—1953	6	315	322	261	904
B : 1948 or earlier	—	—	183	184	367

### TUBERCULOSIS.

Total number on Register at 31st December, 1953: 35. Pulmonary, 23; Non-Pulmonary, 12.

Age Periods.	New Cases.						Deaths.					
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory					
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 ... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 ... ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 ... ...	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 ... ...	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 ... ...	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45 ... ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 ... ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	9	2	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—

No action was found to be necessary under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, in connection with persons suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis employed in the milk trade, or under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, which deals with the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

**REPORT OF SURVEYOR AND CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1953.**

**WATER SUPPLY**

About 7 miles of new water main have been laid during the year, consisting of the cross country trunk main from Red Hill, Perry, to Southoe, Midloe and Hail Weston, and the extension to Waterloo Farm, Offord Cluny. The latter extension will enable Godmanchester Borough Council to lay mains to supply outlying farms in their area.

A collecting drain 200 yards long has been laid to feed the well at Diddington and a great improvement has resulted in the supply of water as even after prolonged pumping the level of water in the well does not go down more than an inch or two whereas previously it fluctuated considerably.

During 1953 the Council have decided to instal larger pumps at Diddington and to lay a duplicate pumping main from the pumping station to Stirtloe. These improvements are rendered necessary by the increasing demand for water.

It was also decided during the year to submit a scheme for improving the water supply in the Kimbolton area by the erection of a water tower near Kimbolton Station and the laying of a loop main from Covington to Kimbolton Station. These proposals will provide storage capacity in the district and a ring main for a good portion of the area.

The Byelaws under Section 17 of the Water Act, 1945, referred to in last year's report have still to be approved by the Ministry.

2,194 properties are now supplied with mains water and almost all the houses except those in very isolated areas, enjoy this service. 82 houses were connected to the water mains during 1953 as a result of informal or formal action, and water was extended inside 33 houses from outside standpipes.

**MAIN PIPED SUPPLIES.**

Source of Supply.	Parishes Supplied.	Daily Consumption.
a. South Cambs. R.D.C.	Abbotsley, Waresley, Gt. Gransden, Tetworth and part of Eynesbury Hard.	18,780 gallons.
b. Raunds U.D.C.	Kimbolton, Covington, Catworth, Tilbrook and Stow.	46,000 gallons.
c. Diddington (St. Neots R.D.C.)	Buckden, Diddington, Grafham, Southoe, Lt. Paxton, Hail Weston, Offords, Gt. Paxton, Toseland and Yelling.	89,700 gallons. (Includes Polish School)
d. Staughton Moor (St. Neots R.D.C.)	Gt. Staughton and Perry.	20,600 gallons. (Includes H.M. Borstal Institution).
e. St. Neots U.D.C.	St. Neots Rural & Eynesbury Hardwicke.	Not known.

The daily average amount of water supplied per head for all purposes is 25 gallons and the unmetered supply averages 14 gallons per head per day.

**ANNUAL RAINFALL** at Gt. Gransden Hall: 18.52 inches. Rain falling on 129 days.

**BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON RAW WATER.**

Eleven satisfactory samples and three unsatisfactory samples were obtained from Diddington well. The three unsatisfactory samples were taken during the time of laying the new collecting drain. Samples of treated water were taken at the same time and in every case the report was satisfactory. All samples from Staughton Moor supply are raw in that this supply receives no treatment.

**BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS ON TREATED WATER.**

All samples during the year were satisfactory:

South Cambs. R.D.C.: 12 samples (plus one repeat sample); Raunds U.D.C.: 12 samples; Diddington: 13 samples; Staughton: 12 samples. Total 49.

**CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.**

No action taken during the year.

**WELLS.**

New wells sunk: Nil. Wells cleansed and repaired: 4. Wells closed as polluted: 19. Number of samples obtained for analysis found to be satisfactory: 2; unsatisfactory: 11. Action taken: Main water laid on where practicable and in other cases occupiers advised to boil all water intended for human consumption. Any insufficiency: None known.

**REPORT ON WATER SUPPLY FOR THE ST NEOTS RURAL DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1953**

Estimated No. of Estimated Population  
Dwellings Supplied. Dwellings Supplied.

Name of Town,  
Village or Parish

Source of Supply  
Public Supply,  
Wells, etc.  
Public Supply  
etc., etc.

Name of Town, Village or Parish	Source of Supply Public Supply, Wells, etc. Public Supply etc., etc.	Public Main Suff.	Satisf.	No. of such Analyses.	Private Supply plies only.	No. of such Analyses of In- dividual Supplies.	Quality of Water	Sufficiency or Otherwise	Estimated No. of Dwellings Supplied. Dwellings Supplied.
Abbotsley		"	"	2	29	2	48	6	By Public or Private Wells.
Buckden		"	"	2	66	46	188	92	By Stand-pipes.
Catworth		"	"	2	47	41	6	17	Main Supply.
Covington		"	"	2	22	6	3	116	Direct from Wells.
Diddington		"	"	2	37	3	87	22	9
Eynesbury H.	U.D.C. Mains & Wells	"	"	2	24	11	127(a)	38	27
Graftham	R.D.C. Mains Public Main	"	"	2	66	2	106	6	By Stand-pipes.
Gt. Gransden		"	"	2	243	66	740	116	By Stand-pipes.
Gt. Paxton		"	"	2	112	5	1	289	15
Gt. Staughton		"	"	2	Nil	8	186	62	121
Hail Weston		"	"	2	Nil	7	186	62	621(b) 121
Kimbolton		"	"	2	Nil	1	85	12	47
Lt. Paxton		"	"	2	Unsat. 1	1	248	37	29
Oxford Cluny		"	"	2	Unsat. 1	2	37	4	12
Oxford Darcy		"	"	2	Unsat. 1	2	880(c)	112	7
Southoe & Midloe		"	"	2	Nil	1	60	7	—
St. Neots Rural	U.D.C. Mains & Wells	"	"	2	Nil	1	86	12	18
Stow Teworth	R.D.C. Mains Public Main Bigg'wade Water Board, South Cambs. R.D.C., Wells & Mains Public Main	"	"	2	Nil	1	70	10	31
Tilbrook		"	"	2	Nil	1	59	9	23
Toseland		"	"	2	Nil	1	28	4	26
Waresley		"	"	2	Nil	1	28	4	12
Yelling		"	"	2	Nil	1	—	—	—
									7011
									Plus Polish Camp (Direct from Mains) 700
									7711

Notes—(a) Does not include Polish School, which varies up to 700 persons.

(b) Includes H.M. Borstal Institution at Gaynes Hall.

(c) Includes Kimbolton School Boarders.

Particulars regarding plumb-bo-solvent action connected with above supplies: Nil.

## SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Negotiations continued with the Ministry during the year for the Council to be awarded a starting date for their proposed Buckden and Ossord Sewerage Scheme. Finally a modified scheme covering the greater part of Buckden was submitted for the Ministry's approval at their suggestion and in the early part of 1954 approval was given to the scheme and a starting date of June, 1954, was awarded. It is therefore, to be hoped that a start on the modified scheme for Buckden will be made during 1954.

A similar scheme for Kimbolton and Gt. Staughton was submitted for approval and the Ministry held an Inquiry in January, 1954. The result is not yet available.

12 piped sewers and 4 open ditches received attention during the year, along with the cleansing of the Kimbolton Sewerage tanks. Sewerage works on the Council's old housing sites are regularly dealt with by the Council's Cesspool Emptier, as one afternoon per week is set aside for this work. 6 repairs were carried out to sewage works.

39 private cesspools and 56 Council cesspools or sewerage tanks were cleansed during the year.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The scheme outlined in the 1947 report was continued during the year. The cost of emptying each dustbin is approximately  $8\frac{1}{2}$ d. and each pail closet about  $7\frac{1}{2}$ d. The number of dustbins to be emptied is gradually increasing, while the number of pail closets is decreasing and will be accelerated when the new sewerage schemes are operating. The cesspool emptying machine will then have more time for dealing with sewage works and cesspools. In the future it will be necessary either to obtain a further refuse vehicle or to have a larger vehicle upon which an extra man could be carried.

Three controlled tips are still used and facilities granted to St. Neots U.D.C. enabling them to utilise one of these tips.

## SALVAGE.

The Council's workmen have collected the following salvage during the year:—

Waste paper, rags and lead: total weight, 8 tons 17 cwts. Value £26-9-1.

## PETROLEUM STORAGE LICENCES.

Three new applications were received during the year, making 46 on the Register.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Four new licences were issued during the year and the total licensed is now eleven. 8 improvements to conditions were made.

## COUNCIL HOUSE MAINTENANCE.

1,295 inspections were made and 430 orders were issued for repairs. During the year a further 25 approved type of solid fuel cooking appliances were installed in the old Council houses. Hot water installations were made in 15 pre-war Council houses to supply existing bathrooms and kitchens. Electricity was installed in 18 existing Council houses and now all the Council houses are supplied.

### BUILDING LICENCES.

7 licences were issued during 1953.

### NEW BUILDINGS.

92 plans of new buildings or alterations were deposited. Two plans of garages were rejected as not complying with Byelaws regarding fire proofing or distance from other buildings. 396 visits were paid to works in progress.

### MILK AND DAIRIES.

11 retailers are registered with the Council as all other dealers are producers also and therefore under the Ministry of Agriculture. Four inspections of premises were carried out. Four supplementary licences for T.T., five for pasteurised and one for sterilised milk were issued. 2 dealers are licensed for T.T. and pasteurised milks.

### FOOD INSPECTIONS.

All slaughtering for the district is carried out in St. Neots Urban area. 89 inspections of food premises were made under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and Byelaws made thereunder and several premises were improved. 28 places are now registered under Section 14 of the Act. 207 lbs. of food was condemned as unfit for consumption consisting of tinned fish, fruit, vegetables, milk, jam, meat and one sheep's carcass. All condemned food is disposed of either on the Council's tips or in boiler houses.

No special clean food campaigns are thought to be necessary in this area as most of the businesses are small family ones and individual inspection is made and the necessary advice given.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area and no action has been required under the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 to 1952.

The number of food premises in the area is as follows:—

Butchers 9, Grocers and General Stores 24, Bakers and Confectioners 11, Cafes and Caterers 4, Sweet Shops 11, Greengrocer and Fishmonger 2, Public Houses 46. Total 107.

26 premises are registered for the storage and sale of ice cream and 2 for the manufacture of sausages and pressed meat under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

### SLAUGHTER HOUSES AND SLAUGHTERMEN'S LICENCES.

There are no licensed slaughter houses in use in the area. No licencees for slaughtermen were issued during the year. 14 three-yearly licences are in force.

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**  
**REPORT FOR 15 MONTHS ENDED 31st MARCH, 1954.**

	Type of Property					Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Business & Industrial)		
I Total number of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 & 2).	20	2031	351	167	2569	
II Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 15 months ended 31st March, 1954, as a result of (a) notification, (b) survey under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, (c) otherwise, e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose (Notes 1, 2 & 3).	(a)	—	34	7	6	47
	(b)	13	74	10	7	104
	(c)	—	—	—	—	—
III Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be infested by rats (Notes 1, 2 & 3).	Major	4	1	8	2	15
	Minor	9	92	7	8	116
IV Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice (Notes 1, 2 & 3).	—	—	1	—	—	1
V Number of infested properties (see Sections III and IV) treated by the Local Authority. (Notes 1, 2 & 3).	13	93	15	10	131	
VI Number of notices served under Section 4:— (1) Treatment ... (2) Structural Works ... (i.e. Proofing)						Informal action only.
VII Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following the issue of notice under Section 4 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
VIII Legal Proceedings ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
IX Number of 'block' control schemes carried out ...	3	—	—	—	—	3

## NOTES.

## Note 1—

With the exception of agricultural properties, a property means one which is entered separately in the Valuation Roll for the area.

## Note 2—

- (a) Council houses should be entered in column (2).
- (b) Premises used by the Local Authority for the purposes of trade should be entered in column (4).
- (c) Sewers should not be included.
- (d) Combined dwelling and business premises, where occupied by the same person, should be regarded as business premises and should be entered in column (4). Where the dwelling and business parts of the premises are in separate occupation, separate entries should be made in columns (2) and (4).

## Note 3—

For the purpose of completing Sections II, III, IV and V, each property should be entered once only in respect of inspections, infestations or treatments.

400 rat bodies were found and 1,125 rats were destroyed according to the amount of poison taken.

All the above figures relate to the Rural area only, but the Operator also covers St. Neots Urban District.

## NEW HOUSING.

The number of new Council houses built is as follows:—

Parish	Completed during year	Under construction	Total built since 1945
Abbotsley	...	—	12
Buckden	...	2	32
Gt. Gransden	...	8	24
Gt. Staughton	...	10	26
Gt. Paxton	...	8	24
Kimbolton	...	8	14
Offord Darcy	...	—	4
Offord Cluny	...	—	30
Stow Longa	...	—	4
Tilbrook	...	—	8
Yelling	...	8	14
Grafham	...	2	8
Hail Weston	...	—	23
Little Paxton	...	—	4
Southoe	...	4	8
Covington	...	—	2
Catworth	...	—	—
	—	—	—
	50	46	237
	—	—	—

In addition, the Council own 20 Ministry of Works Prefabs. and 12 converted hutments (3 occupied) — these latter are shortly to be closed and demolished and the site re-used.

13 new private enterprise houses were completed during the year.

## HOUSING INSPECTION.

My remarks in the 1952 report still apply but further progress has been possible. 11 unfit houses have been dealt with formally under the Housing Act, 1936, and 12 houses have been demolished during the year. 3 houses have been rendered fit following undertakings under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. Other defects reported or found upon in-

spection have been dealt with under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Improvement grants under the Housing Act, 1949, have been paid covering 3 houses and schemes covering a further 10 houses were approved during the year and in many cases the work was well in hand at the end of the year.

### HOUSING TABLE

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year:—

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	264
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	496
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ...	—
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	—
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	21
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	... 29

#### 2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 30

#### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

##### (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, 11 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners ...	3
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

##### (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	26
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a)	By owners ...	—
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

##### (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	8
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	12
(3)	Undertakings to make fit accepted or as to use ...	9

##### (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	—
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(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	—
<b>4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.</b>		
(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	...	2
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	...	2
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	...	10½
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	...	—
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	1
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	...	8
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	—
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	...	—

**SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE:—**

Total number of notices served	...	58
Informal	...	37
Formal	...	21
Total Number of notices complied with	...	58
Informal	...	34
Formal	...	24
Work in default	...	Nil

**ANALYSIS OF INSPECTIONS MADE:—**

Housing	...	264
Council House Maintenance	...	1285
Houses, etc. Under P.H. Act, 1936	...	232
Houses, etc. Under P.H. Act, 1936, re-visits	...	200
Supervising erection of new buildings	...	396
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	...	188
Post-War Housing	...	64
Dairies	...	4
Bakehouses	...	4
Drains Tested	...	65
Infectious Disease	...	11
Rooms Disinfected	...	4
Vermin	...	6
Water Supply (samples taken bact. 77 chem. Nil)	...	588
Scavenging	...	51
Food Premises	...	89
Rats and Mice	...	56
Miscellaneous	...	68
Moveable Dwellings	...	24
Factories	...	22
Outworkers	...	7

Interviews	...	676
Housing Applications	...	65
Overcrowding	...	1
Petroleum	...	9
Street Numbering	...	478

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION, ETC.

Number of houses with pail or tub closets in area (est.)	...	1385
Number of houses with W.C.'s in area (est.)	...	997
Number of pails reconstructed as W.C.'s in 1953	...	28
Number of new additional W.C.'s provided at existing property	...	7
Number of W.C.'s constructed in 1953 for new premises	...	63
Number of new pails provided	...	16
Number of new dustbins provided	...	36

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Total number on Register (including bakehouse)	...	63
Number of inspections	...	26
Number in which defects remedied (2 found)	...	1
Bakehouses, number on Register	...	9
Number in which defects remedied	...	Nil
Number of notices served	...	2
Number of notices complied with	...	1



